

Landbeach Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

summarised by

Mike Petty

Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the
Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the
Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at
bit.ly/CambsCollection

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in
touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library
where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the
1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – www.mikepetty.org.uk for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2016

1898 05 11

Cottenham parish council considered a request from the Milton parish council asking them to join in petitioning the County Council to take such steps as might seem fit for the purpose of constructing a light railway from the crossing on the Milton Road to Cottenham via Landbeach. After discussing the question it was agreed that the Milton route would be best for passenger traffic to Cambridge. Therefore it was agreed to support the petition

1899 12 01

Landbeach fire, p3

1899 12 02

Cambridgeshire villages have been prolific in fires of unusual magnitude and Landbeach has now earned the distinction of having a disastrous fire within its limits. Four cottages, a blacksmith's & wheelwright's shop and a stable were burnt completely out. Luckily building space in Landbeach is not at a premium and the properties formed a little group by themselves with at least ten yards between any other dwelling house, otherwise the damage would assuredly have been much more extensive. The buildings were of lathe and plaster and in an incredibly short time were one huge bonfire

1902 08 26

Mr W. Saunders, the veteran captain of Histon and Landbeach Cricket Club has been aptly dubbed the local "W.G." [Grace] – not because of any physical similarity – his spare even youthful-looking frame cannot compare with the great girth of the one and only Doctor – but because both have long and honourable records in the game. He has been actively engaged in cricket for no less a period than 48 years. His career commenced in 1854. Later he and his three brothers took a prominent part in forming a club at Impington & he finally settled at Histon about 1884

1906 03 10

The Red Cow, Landbeach, sold half a barrel and six dozen bottles of beer a week. A share-out club with 65 members met there fortnightly. Within 760 paces there were 47 private houses and four licensed pubs. The British Queen, with better accommodation, was nearby. The population of the village was 413 and allowing for 78 school children, there was a licensed house to every 67 adults. There were cottages at the back which provided facilities for secret drinking, especially as the house stood back 15 yards from the road. But the landlord was a teetotaler who did not encourage this. Also: Carrier's Cart Shelford, Haunch of Mutton & Plough & Horses Waterbeach, Rose & Crown Willingham, Hare & Hounds Over, Dolphin Stapleford, 06 03 10c & d

1906 03 12

Landbeach – county licences, p4

1906 06 30

Fourteen public houses have been closed under the Licensing Act of 1904. They include a beer house at Heath Road Litlington, which sold one barrel a week, including stout, and a gallon of ginger wine. All their beer was made from pure malt and hops and it was a better house than the two nearest to it. There were four fully-licensed houses, four beer houses and one off-licence in the village. The Dolphin at Stapleford had been shut up for six weeks as the former landlord had run away and the village appeared to do well without it. The present tenant was a cycle agent and taxidermist as well, 'So you stuff people first and put them on wheels afterwards?' also Cambridge: Jolly Butchers, Star, Sun; Bassingbourn: Crown; Bottisham: Plough; Comberton: Plough; Fordham: Six Bells, Landbeach: Red Cow; Lt Shelford: Carrier's Cart; Stapleford: Dolphin; Steeple Morden: beer house; Waterbeach: Haunch of Mutton, Plough and Horses; Willingham: William IV, Rose and Crown
06 06 30d,e, f

1906 07 25

Landbeach organ, p4

1906 10 10

Fire broke out in the engine house of Charles Piggott, corn merchant of Landbeach. The engine had just been filled from a huge tank containing 200 gallons of oil, some of which spilled on the floor and became ignited. Flames at once rose in a great volume to the roof. Waterbeach fire brigade arrived with their manual pump and obtained a good supply of water from a trough which was filled by steam, and a hand pump, but the building was gutted. 06 10 10a

1906 11 16

The Compensation Authority considered claims for premises closed under the Licensing Act. They included a beerhouse at North Brook End, Steeple Morden, The Plough at Comberton, the Red Cow, Landbeach and Carrier's Cart at Lt Shelford. Pottton Brewery said they would lose £275 if the licence of a beerhouse at Heath Road, Litlington was taken away but accepted £240 as compensation. However Benskin's Watford Brewery refused £251 for the Sun in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. also Stapleford Dolphin, Waterbeach Haunch of Mutton & Plough & Horses, Sawston – Flower Pot, Willingham – King William IV, Bottisham Plough, Soham Queen's Arms and Old Brewery 06 11 16a & b

1907 06 25

Ripe with age and active up to the last in the pursuance of his business and religious duties, Mr Stephen Chivers, of Histon, the founder of the great jam-making firm, passed away suddenly in his 84th year. On Sunday evening he preached in Landbeach Baptist Church where he delivered an earnest discourse on the subject of prayer. Afterwards he complained of something being amiss with his throat. On Monday morning he "went home to God" 07 06 25 & 25a

1908 01 24

Landbeach Black Bull licensee – 08 01 24

1908 04 27

Landbeach Black Bull licence – 08 04 27a

1910 05 06

Under the new Midwives Act no woman can habitually attend women in childbirth unless she is certified. There were 54 midwives on the register of whom 30 were trained. Ten of the untrained women were between the ages of 65-75 and might need replacing before long by reason of death or infirmity. There was only one trained midwife at Willingham and an untrained woman at Landbeach. There were none at Isleham, Burwell, Wicken, Upware, Milton, Cottenham, Swavesey or Histon. Some mothers can afford the fee of a medical practitioner but are unable also to pay the full fee of a skilled nurse and so may turn to unregistered women 10 05 06b & c

1911 04 07

Dr W.H. Rose, headmaster of the Perse Grammar School was summoned for caning a pupil. The lad lived at Landbeach and cycled into Cambridge every day, a distance of about five miles. Ash Wednesday was a half-holiday but boys were required to attend in the afternoon. The lad had got ready but the day was very rough with a high wind. There was no train service and his mother, considering the weather told him not to go and she would send a note next morning. But next day he had been caned and sent to detention for two hours. He had told his parents and not been back to school. Dr Rouse said he did not know there was a valid excuse and expressed regret the boy was punished. 11 04 07 & a

1912 08 30

Landbeach smallholdings petition – 12 08 30c

1913 02 21

Landbeach Worts Farm smallholdings inquiry

1913 03 28

Wyatt, Landbeach passive resister

13 05 09

Landbeach Black Bull landlord drunk

1914 01 30

It is not surprising that the bad example set by the militant suffragists should incite young village people to mischievous pranks. 'Votes for Women' decorate the rail of a bridge on the road to Milton. Now daubs of black discovered on property at Landbeach would lead one to think that supporters of the feminist cause had been paying a visit. Great annoyance has been caused by the smearing of gates and walls with tar. The iron gates leading into the churchyard have been freely daubed and users of the village pump have, on seizing the handle, found it black and sticky. But the acts have been traced to two lads of previous good character 14 01 30j

1914 02 06

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1914 09 18

Sale stock Worts Farm, Landbeach which taken by Cambs County council

1914 11 06

Belgians – Littleport, Burwell, Chatteris, Duxford, Comberton, Sawston, Elsworth, Fen Drayton, Swavesey, Fordham, West Wickham, Wicken, Gamlingay, Willingham, Madingley, Isleham, Landbeach, Linton, Lode, Oakington,

1916 01 12 CIP

Horse's Escapade - At about. 12.30 p.m. on Monday, a horse attached to a spring cart belonging to Mr. J. Papworth, of Landbeach which was being driven along Hills Road by a boy got out of control and bolted up the bridge. It first collided with a perambulator containing a child, but no personal injury was sustained. Continuing on its wild escapade, the horse smashed into a lamppost, which was completely overturned. The animal was shortly afterwards brought to a standstill by several pedestrians.

1917 03 07

The Mail Cart - On Wednesday evening last the mail cart, which has been running for about 20 years between Cambridge and Willingham, via Milton. Landbeach, Cottenham and Hampton, could be seen making its last journey. Arrangements have now been made for the Cottenham and Rampton mail in future to come from Cambridge to Oakington station by train. Mr. Albert Young, of Rampton, has been appointed to fetch the mail from Oakington in the morning and to carry it to Oakington in the evening. Owing to these alterations, the Cottenham letters will be delivered an hour later than usual. The mail in the evening will so out at 8.45 instead of 8 o'clock, necessitating the posting of letters an hour and a quarter earlier than usual. The mid-day delivery will remain as before. There will in future be no delivery or dispatch on Sundays.

19119 07 16

Landbeach estate sale, county council buy 300 acres – 19 07 16e

1920 06 16

Landbeach war memorial unveiled – photos – 20 06 16a

1920 06 08

Landbeach war memorial unveiled

1924 04 06

Mr T Garrett told Landbeach and Waterbeach Labour Party that the new Labour government had received a good press to begin with but the difficult times were now coming upon them. When something to do with mining came up in parliament there were always half a hundred miners to put the case of the men. But it was quite otherwise with agriculture. They wanted an agricultural wing 50 strong for the Labour Party. They must never lose sight of their object which was to push up the wages of the agricultural labourer and secure a fair return to the smallholder for his hard toil

1927 08 06

Mr Lloyd George's tour in the rain of some of the Cambridgeshire smallholdings was evidence of his anxiety to gain first-hand knowledge of the problems faced on the land today. He described as "marvellous" the development of the holding of Mr David Easy, who started with three-quarters of an acre and now has 200 acres and a herd of 30 cows. Tea, taken at Mr Street's farm at Landbeach was "like a family party" and Mr Lloyd George found considerable interest that some of the articles placed before him for consumption were home grown or home-made. The tour continued to Cottenham and Willingham.

1928 05 21

Herbert Spalding, parish constable of Landbeach, said he went to Milton feast and had a turn at a penny-in-the-slot machine. He started with 7d and got down to a penny but then won 8d and finished with 3d profit. He found it better to let the machine run and not press the controls. There were 15 automatic machines in the booth and men, women, boys and girls were using them. Some players used the knobs and some did not; it did not seem to make any difference. The games were chance and not skill. A fine of 5s was imposed on the proprietor.

1929 10 13

Cambridge Town Council were asked to pay a Landbeach smallholder for the loss of his horse. It had slipped on the surface of East Road after a shower, and was killed. The Corporation declined to accept responsibility but it was suggested that a subscription list should be opened to which individual councillors would be pleased to subscribe. This was done with the result that the owner will receive £13, £3 more than had been suggested

1936 07 09

Much regret will be felt at the death of John Morris Bull, the dairyman. Born in Landbeach, he assisted his father who was village smith before buying a dairy business from Mr Thompson of Russell Street, Cambridge in 1891. During the War he was one of the organisers of the Dairyman's Association that ensured a regular supply of milk. A life-long Liberal, he had a good record of public service on the Board of Guardians and County Council. He leaves a widow and three sons 36 07 09a

1943 12 31

Landbeach Diamond Wedding. The marriage register at All Saints' Church. Landbeach, records that on Christmas Day, 1883, the wedding of Mr. Arthur Fromant of Milton, and Miss Mary Ann Bowers, of Landbeach, was solemnised by the Rev Dr. Brian Walker, and to commemorate the event of 60 years ago, a celebration family party was held on Saturday last at Ranworth House, the residence of their son, Mr. A. E Fromant. Nearly all their married life has been spent in Landbeach but Quy and Histon could, for brief spells, claim them as parishioners. Of their family of 14 children, 10 are still living. Three are now in the U.S.A. (George Charlie and Mabel) and Stanley is serving with H.M. Forces in India Among a host of congratulatory messages there were 30 wedding cards and five

telegrams, which included one from the King and Queen and one from the U.S.A. Mr Fromant is 79 years old and Mrs Fromant 82.

1947 06 09

Sir, - A disturbing rumour has recently come to my notice that one of our famous beauty spots in Cambridgeshire may be in imminent danger of being despoiled. I refer to Barrington Hill. There appears to be a project afloat for the building along the side of Barrington Hill of a number of workmen's dwellings for the housing of operative employed in the Cement Works. We know only too well that the need for such dwellings exists. We point out however that there are other and more suitable thoroughfares what would serve a far more useful purpose for such building schemes than this beautiful and historic spot - the desecration of which will be a matter of the greatest distress to many thousands in Cambridgeshire. - letter from Miss M.S. Gabrielle Breeze, Landbeach

1950 04 01

An appeal for greater membership of the British Legion was made at the annual dinner of the Waterbeach and Landbeach branch. The branch president: "Our strength is in district and rural branches and our weakness is in the towns and cities". In country branches membership was as good as one in ten.

1950 10 30

Abington W.I. will propose at the annual council meeting that in the interest of cleaner and healthier food the Government should consider the removal of purchase tax from refrigerators. Landbeach will ask for the imposition of a 30 mph speed limit on all built-up areas, while Bourn calls on the County Council to pay more attention to the condition of subsidiary roads. Fen Drayton W.I. want all country telephone kiosks to be connected direct to the exchange and not through the local post office in their own village

1951 04 04

The pros and cons of a proposal to establish a greyhound race track on land off the Landbeach Road, Milton were argued before a Planning inspector. The applicant said greyhound racing is not a particularly offensive form of sport and it might be pleasant for local inhabitants to have some sort of recreation on the spot. There would be 104 evening meetings per year with floodlighting in the winter. The County Council said it would be difficult to refuse permission to expand in other directions, such as speedway racing. The main road was one of the busiest in the county carrying an average of 145 vehicles an hour. Mr J.R. Ginn (Over) said he was one of the largest breeders of greyhounds in the county & we badly need a track for Cambs.

1952 04 24

The County council and landowners in Landbeach, Cottenham and Willingham have objected to their land being included in an internal drainage district of the Great Ouse River Board. . Cottenham was well served by ditches, drains and gravity drainage, but they were not kept in a proper state. The only way was to put them under a drainage district. But the County claimed that the additional cost of the drainage rate on their smallholdings would increase the rate throughout the whole county. Flames shot 30 feet into the air as a Vampire Jet aircraft crashed in Landbeach, narrowly missing the church, school and rectory.

1955 02 02

Villagers crowded round the Rectory paddock where the plane fell. The crash stopped at meeting of the Women's Institute in the Rectory; the ladies ran out and saw the planes in flames but when they found they could not help they resumed their meeting. The body of the pilot was found almost at the door of the church, about 50 yards from the aircraft. 55 02 02a

1957 12 07

Landbeach used to have four public houses – the Red Cow, British Queen, Bower and Black Bull. They have now all closed. 'Snowy' Collins says he went to the Black Bull every day for 20 years. It is

now stripped of its signs and illuminations and a peep through the dusty windows reveals that all the furniture has been removed. Freddie Fromant had the last drink on the night it closed. The Rector, Rev F.O. Sanders, said he always went down to the pub and was on good terms with the publicans: "It think it is better that people should know how much the parson drinks". 57 12 07a

1958 02 22

Landbeach 'Black Bull' memories – 58 02 22a & b

1958 05 30

Landbeach Sand and Gravel Company appealed for a new pit near the junction of Waterbeach and Ely Roads. Mr Arthur Dickerson said it had lain derelict for 25 years, it grew nothing but rubbish and scrub and was infested with rabbits and vermin. If it were used for gravel workings the resulting pits could be left open for the tipping of refuse, the topsoil put back and the land eventually made available for agriculture. But neighbours said it was a peaceful area and their property would be devalued. 58 05 30 & b

1958 10 21

Landbeach Sand and Gravel Company has lost its appeal to open a new gravel pit at Waterbeach Road, Landbeach. It was undesirable to open a wet pit so close to houses and the existing wilderness of trees and bushes would be lost forever. There might also be difficulty in getting enough suitable material to fill it; the use of domestic refuse would be unpleasant for householders, an Inspector decided. 58 10 21

1969 09 23

Landbeach rectory mural painted – 60 09 23d

1961 06 16

As soon as lessons finished for the day in the tiny Landbeach school thirty pupils banging tin drums and old saucepan lids marched through the village shouting "We want a playing field". Slowly the 30-yard long procession of youngsters aged between seven and 11 years wound its way round the picturesque streets waving banners. Then somebody remembered it was tea time so a halt was called. It is unlikely that any of the demonstrators will be at the Parish Council meeting discussing their request. They will all be in bed 61 06 16 & a

1961 11 01

An inquiry will decide whether land south of Goose Hall Farm, Landbeach should be developed as a site for 20 caravans. Landbeach was a popular place for residential development, despite the lack of a public house, butcher or baker and with mobile shops. With public transport and the universal use of the motor car the site was not isolated, the proposer claimed. But planners objected: it was outside village limits and unsuitable 61 11 01b

1962 06 15

Landbeach School was overcrowded with 49 children divided into an infant and junior class for which there are two teachers. It would be better if it were closed with children going to Waterbeach. But the County did not have the right to shut a Church-controlled school unless there was one nearby, and that at Milton was already full. Parents were opposed: the school had been part of the life of the village for 200 years; once closed it was most unlikely there would ever be another one. 62 06 15a

1972 11 06

A firework, probably a rocket from a Guy Fawkes party, is thought to have caused a fire which almost burned out a historic 18th century thatched cottage at Landbeach. The cottage, built in the 1760s by the then Rector, had been unoccupied for the last three years. Fireworks were also believed to have started a fire which badly damaged an old wooden barn used by Bar Hill junior school as a storeroom. Almost the whole of the 2,000 sq. ft. building, part of the original Bar Hill Farm and one of the new village's oldest buildings, was destroyed

1975 05 14

Landbeach comedian Jack Harding yesterday gagged his way to an expenses-paid holiday for two in the Mediterranean. For 66-year-old Jack won first prize in the senior citizens' talent competition at Leicester. Jack, a part-time retired mobile hardware and oil merchant, was supported by 200 well-wishers from Golden Age clubs in Cambridge.

1975 11 05

An early harvest and wide publicity has saved the day for the Landbeach Society's bid to re-thatch a 16th-century tithe barn in the village. Work has just started on the £4,000 project. If good straw and a team of thatchers had not turned up in time, a £1,500 Architectural Historical Heritage Year grant would have been withdrawn. But at the last moment Huntingdon thatcher Mr John Dodson turned up and offered to do the job and straw of the right quality became available in Lincolnshire.

1978 04 24

Landbeach village sign was unveiled by the oldest and youngest inhabitants, Mr Horace Bull, aged 101, and Mrs Sarah Wilson aged 91, and babies John Abrahams aged three months and Gemma Horlock aged only 10 days. The sign is a combination of several prize-winning ideas submitted by villagers and includes a capsule buried in the stone plinth which will, when opened, reveal some interesting facts to a new generation about the clothes we wear, the wages we earn and what the Queen's Silver Jubilee was all about.

1979 07 10

The present Landbeach post office will close when the village postmistress, Miss Doris Mitham, retires. The sub post office, which occupies a tiny room at the back of her large High Street home, has been in the family for 36 years. She took over the running of it from her mother seven years ago and before that was the village post woman, delivering letters twice daily. The new post office will be at Mrs Phyllis McFarlane's shop opposite a grocery store and Mr Peter Hall will become the new postmaster having been 'dragooned' into applying by villagers who saw the shop as the ideal spot.

1980 02 01

George Arnold is carrying on a family tradition. For the last 40 years he has been pindar of Landbeach, a post his father held before him. He is responsible for rounding up any stray farm animals and locking them in the parish pound next to the church. The job is unpaid but he can charge owners for releasing the animals and sell unclaimed beasts after a month and keep the cash. The last time he had any animals in the pound was two years ago when six cows escaped from a field but he didn't have the heart to fine the owner. In the old days pindars could charge 6d for every animal; that was worth half a day's pay. 80 02 01

1980 05 13

Landbeach church has received a £2,098 grant for repairing its medieval windows. The tracery lights of three south aisle windows are being cleaned and releaded and an east window, which has been attacked by lichen harmful to the glass, is to be treated with fungicide. Other contractors are continuing repairs to the rest of the building following the theft of lead from the roof last year. 80 05 13e

1980 11 11

Landbeach church organ may have been damaged by rain which seeped through the vestry roof. It does not sound as good as it once did. The rector says they have no idea what it might cost to repair but it would be beyond the church's resources to replace it. Restoration work to the roof is already costing £80,000 as woodworm had eaten into the timbers. 80 11 11a

1980 11 14

A painting by a Flemish artist in 1562 may be sold to provide cash for much-needed repairs at Landbeach church. A similar work of art made £14,000 but this one is not in good condition. 'The Adoration of the Shepherds' is painted on wooden panels which have split and the original surface is

damaged. It can never be hung in the church as it would deteriorate in the damp conditions and could be vandalised so it is in storage at the Fitzwilliam Museum. 80 11 14a

1982 04 20

Plans to bring American tourists to Landbeach to help pay for repairs to the village church have fallen through. Villagers would have put up 15 visiting couples in their homes, raising £6,000 for All Saints' Church, but there has been little response from the United States. This has been their first real setback in fundraising – last year a painting fetched £21,000 at Sotheby's. 82 04 20

1982 07 01

A crop-spraying plane sliced through power cables at Landbeach, narrowly missed crashing near houses and flew off, leaving 2,500 homes without electricity. The pilot had been skimming a field, flying under the 11,000-volt cables which are just 20 feet above the ground, when a wing clipped the wire. This is the seventh accident involving a crop-spraying aircraft in the past five years. In 1977 a pilot was killed when his machine plunged to the ground at March. Others occurred at Earith, Keyston and Abbots Ripton. 82 07 01

1983 06 02

The award-winning Landbeach marina has been sold for about ½ million pounds to a millionaire who runs three other marinas in the country. It has five lakes, children's play areas, cafes, bars, games rooms and a restaurant and provides facilities for caravanning, camping and water sports. It was formerly a sand and gravel works. It is an asset to the district and praised as a highly organised and well laid out holiday centre. 83 06 02 p5

1984 05 21

A mysterious killer beast has struck again, slaughtering half a dozen chickens at Oakington. Big paw prints found in the chicken run give a fresh boost to claims that a puma is at large in the area. It is the latest in a series of terror attacks on animals: in March a cat was mauled in Histon and rabbits killed when their hutch was ripped open, while at Landbeach a pet duck was carried off by a large animal. 84 05 21 p3

1985 10 15

Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 11 26

Landbeach Lake may be sold as nature reserve – 85 11 26

1985 12 30

Alan Wyatt has turned three rooms of his house at Landbeach into a musical museum devoted to the melodies of the Victorian era 85 12 30

1986 04 30

Dickerson to sell frontage on A10 Landbeach – 86 04 30a

1986 05 22

A new town for up to 18,000 people may be created as a cure for Cambridge's spiralling housing needs. It would include shops, pubs, leisure facilities and 150 acres of supporting industry. Two possible sites are the A10 Waterbeach-Landbeach area and the Caxton, Bourn and Swavesey area between the A45 and A604. One solution would be if the Ministry of Defence could be persuaded to

leave either Waterbeach or Oakington bases. But County planners have rejected any new settlement south of Cambridge, fearing housing would be snapped up by M11 and railway commuters 86 05 22

1987 05 05

A Swaffham Bulbeck architect has won a prestigious award for the restoration of Landbeach's 12th-century church. The King of Prussia's Gold Medal, awarded by the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, will be presented at Lambeth Palace. Cecil Bourne, who has been supervising work on the church for the past eight years, says the church was quite a dangerous structure and badly in need of repair. Fund raisers have collected £150,000 for work to the tower, spire, nave and chancel but more remains to be done. 87 05 05a

1988 03 18

Landbeach's historic tithe barn has remained virtually unchanged since Elizabethan. Until last year the barn belonged to the Diocese of Ely but now it has been bought on behalf of the village. A few structural changes will be made, with electric lights to illuminate the impressive timber-framed interior so that it can be used for concerts or plays in warm weather. It may house a permanent exhibition of rural objects. But it won't be suitable for discos or barn dances. 88 03 18a

1989 09 05

Landbeach marina may be turned into a high-tech research park with a 100-bedroom hotel overlooking lakes. Originally old sand and gravel workings, it has been used as a base for camping, caravanning and leisure. Almost 100 caravan owners have been offered a compensation package. Access would be via a new roundabout on the A10 and existing portable buildings would all be demolished. The plans include two new islands on the former water ski lake to encourage its development as a wildlife conservation area. 89 09 05